



Heritage Stratford Advisory Committee

MINUTES

A meeting of the Heritage Stratford Advisory Committee (HS) was held on Tuesday, March 12, 2024 at 7:00 p.m., in the Mansbridge Room at the Stratford Rotary Complex.

Committee Members Present: Brian Johnson – Chair Presiding, Barb Cottle, Jacob Vankooten, Jeff Atchison, Andy Bicanic, Jack West

Staff Present: Alex Burnett – Planner, Vicky Trotter – Council Committee Coordinator, Casey Riehl – Recording Secretary

Regrets: Councillor Larry McCabe, Laura Dent

1. Call to Order

Brian Johnson, Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

Land Acknowledgment

Moment of Silent Reflection

2. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest and The General Nature Thereof

None declared.

3. Adoption of Previous Minutes – February 13, 2024

Motion by Andy Bicanic

Seconded by Jeff Atchison

THAT the minutes from the Heritage Stratford Advisory Committee meeting dated February 13, 2024, be adopted as printed.

Carried

4. Business Arising from Previous Minutes

4.1 James Anderson/Blue Plaques Update

Barb Cottle reported that she now has the James Anderson Award. The Heritage Committee and the recipient will need to decide on a date and a location to hold the presentation event.

Ms. Cottle has the two videos for the 2023 Blue Plaque Award recipients completed. She will forward links to both of them for staff to send to Council members for their information. Both blue plaques were previously purchased and are at the engravers. Heritage Stratford and the recipients can arrange dates and locations for both presentations as well.

4.2 Shakespearean Garden Heritage Designation Update

Alex Burnett, Planner, reported that he presented the designation request to the Parks Board at their March meeting. The Parks Board is supportive of the designation and have given staff approval to proceed. Mr. Burnett has the list of criteria and the specific areas/items in the garden that will be requested to be designated. The Manager of Parks, Forestry and Cemetery, Parks Board and Friends of the Shakespearean Garden worked together to compile the list.

Motion by Jeff Atchison

Seconded by Barb Cottle

THAT the Heritage Stratford Advisory Committee supports Building and Planning staff completing the required designation reports for the Stratford Shakespearean Garden.

Carried

5. Designation Sub-Committee Update

5.1 Update on Non-Designated Properties Register

Alex Burnett, Planner, advised the reports for the two properties that completed the request to be added to the list have been started. Once the draft reports are completed they will be shared with Heritage Stratford members for review and feedback. There has been some interest from two additional properties – one on Cambria Street and the other on Water Street. Barb Cottle volunteered to contact the Stratford Archives to start the research process for these properties.

6. Building & Planning Report (March 2024)

The Building & Planning report for March 2024 was previously provided to members. The Planner reviewed the report with members and was available to answer questions.

7. New Business

7.1 Bike Racks – Active Transportation Advisory Committee/BIA

Vicky Trotter, Council Committee Coordinator, explained that the Active Transportation Advisory Committee is working with the Downtown Stratford BIA, who have beautification funds, to install additional bike racks. The concept will be to install 4-5 art pieces throughout the downtown area that double as bike racks.

Barb Cottle inquired about leaving some streetscapes free of too many bike racks and items not easily removed for instances such as recent filming taking place in the downtown area. The Council Committee Coordinator stated that if Heritage Stratford has specific areas that they feel should not have bike racks installed, they would take that into consideration when choosing locations.

The Council Committee Coordinator will bring specific samples of the bike rack designs, as well as proposed locations, to an upcoming HS meeting for feedback.

7.2 Community Heritage Ontario Annual Membership Renewal

Motion by Andy Bicanic

Seconded by Jacob Vankooten

THAT the Heritage Stratford Advisory Committee spends \$75.00 from their 2024 budget to renew their annual membership with Community Heritage Ontario.

Carried

7.3 Conservation of Heritage Masonry Workshop – April 16-17, 2024 (Guelph)

Members will discuss this item further at the April meeting and decide if a HS member will attend.

8. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of Heritage Stratford will be held on Tuesday, April 9, 2024, at 7:00 p.m., in the Mansbridge Room at the Stratford Rotary Complex, 353 McCarthy Road W., Stratford.

9. Adjournment

Motion by Jacob Vankooten

Seconded by Andy Bicanic

THAT the March 12, 2024 Heritage Stratford Advisory Committee meeting adjourn.

Carried

Start Time: 7:04 P.M.

End Time: 7:32 P.M.